AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-50 (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

presenting an original content including at least one of video or audio content originally produced primarily for purposes other than language learning;

providing assistance to a user to facilitate language learning;

observing an activity of the user;

inferring the extent of knowledge of a language of the user from the observation;

and

automatically adjusting the form of assistance to the user based on the inferring.

52. (Original) The method of Claim 51 further comprising:

delivering the original content with an additional content via a same digital medium;

wherein the additional content includes a text database of the words present within the original content; and

wherein the additional content further includes information about the words.

53. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

combining an additional content from a separate digital medium with the original content;

wherein the additional content includes a text database of the words present within the original content; and

wherein the additional content further includes information about the words.

54. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

playing the original content associated with a plurality of sequentially adjacent words wherein the length and starting point of the sequence of words is responsive to a user input.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

playing a plurality of sequentially adjacent words wherein a speed <u>a player plays</u> the plurality of sequentially adjacent words of playback is adjusted responsive to a user input.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55 further comprising:
adjusting a pitch of audible playback in relation to the speed of playback to

improve intelligibility of an audible word.

- 57. (Original) The method of claim 55 further comprising:
 adjusting a time-spacing between audible words in the playback in relation to the speed of playback to improve recognition of the audible words.
- 58. (Original) The method of claim 57 wherein the individual audible words between the time spaces have their original natural pitch and speech rate preserved.
- 59. (Original) The method of 51 further comprising:

 automatically pausing the content during playback at a point and for a duration

 based on the extent of the knowledge.

- 60. (Original) The method of 59, further comprising:

 automatically offering an additional content during a pause based on the extent of the knowledge.
- 61. (Original) The method of 51, further comprising:

 prompting the user to indicate if they desire more or less assistance.
- 62. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

 providing additional content that includes an index of words spoken in a soundtrack of the original content;

adjusting the speed of playback of the original content responsive to a user input; adjusting at least one of pitch and time-spacing of the words to improve at least one of intelligibility and recognition; and

maintaining a correlation of words spoken to specific points in the content by reference to the index.

63. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

providing additional content that includes an index of words spoken in the original content;

providing a library of audible pronunciations for a plurality of the words in the index; and

playing the pronunciations in response to a user input.

64. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

analyzing at least one of a user input, a context of the user input, a database of the original content, a database of an additional content, and a database of user information to identify information of interest in relation to a segment of the original content;

presenting the information of interest prior to playing the segment.

65. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

analyzing at least one of a user input, a context of the user input, a database of the original content, a database of an additional content, and a database of user information to identify information of interest in relation to a segment of the original content; and

prompting the user for an additional input, the additional input to cause a further modification of the playback.

- 66. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:providing a link to other content accessible across a distributed network.
- 67. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

 controlling access to at least one of content and functions based upon rights
 granted to the user.
- 68. (Original) The method of claim 67, wherein rights are granted based on payments received.

69-88 (Canceled)

89. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium, having stored therein a set of instructions, which when executed cause a machine to perform a set of operations comprising:

presenting an original content including at least one of video or audio content originally produced primarily for purposes other than language learning;

providing assistance to a user to facilitate language learning;

observing an activity of the user;

inferring the extent of knowledge of a language of the user from the observation;

and

automatically adjusting the form of assistance to the user <u>based on the inferring</u>.

90-94 (Canceled)